

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 CU-04 /025 W

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P R 301529Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6010

USIA WASHDC

NASA HQ WASHDC

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2748

PARIS FOR ARNOLD FRUTKIN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH TV INVITATION TO ASTRONAUT LOUSMA

1. LAST YEAR DUTCH TELEVISION STAGED CONTEST IN ENKHUIZEN FOR HOMEMADE MAN-POWERED AIRCRAFT, IN WHICH CONTESTANTS IN VARIOUS FANTASTIC CONTRAPTIONS GLIDED OFF HIGH PIER INTO WATER BEFORE LARGE CROWD. BLUE RIBBON JURY FOR CONTEST INCLUDED MEMBER OF DUTCH ROYAL HOUSE, AN INTERNATIONAL FORMULA RACE CAR CHAMPION AND U.S. ASTRONAUT JACK LOUSMA. RESULTING TV SHOW WAS HILARIOUS, VERY POPULAR AND WAS PICKED BY EUROVISION FOR BROADCAST ALL OVER CONTINENT. ONE REASON FOR SUCCESS WAS LOUSMA, WHOSE DUTCH ANCESTRY AND PLEASING PERSONALITY MADE HIM A SPECIAL FAVORITE.

2. DUTCH TV HAS JUST APPROACHED US WITH REQUEST TO INVITE LOUSMA PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S CONTEST, WHICH THEY SAY WILL BE BIGGER, BETTER AND ALSO BROADCAST EUROPE-WIDE. IT WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 9.

3. DUTCH TV WOULD PAY ALL TRAVEL EXPENSES. IF JACK LOUSMA NOT AVAILABLE, THEY WOULD AS A DISTANT SECOND CHOICE, LIKE ANY ASTRONAUT AVAILABLE INSTEAD, BUT THEY EMPHASIZED THAT LOUSMA IS, FOR REASONS CITED PARA 1, THE IDEAL CHOICE.

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4. I BELIVE THIS IS A VERY WORTHWHILE PROJECT, AND
HOPE LOUSMA CAN BE AVAILABLE TO TAKE PART. THE FAVORABLE
PUBLIC OPINION IMPACT OF THIS SHOW WILL BE EUROPE-WIDE,
NOT JUST IN NETHERLANDS. IF LOUSMA CANNOT COME, WOULD HOPE
ONE OF OTHER ASTRONAUTS WHO WILL BE IN EUROPE AT THAT TIME
CAN SUBSTITUTE. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

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